

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, CG, NI

SUBJECT: NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE ON MILITARY AID TO ZAIRE
AND NIGERIA

REF: STATE 11603

1. FOLLOWING ARTICLE ENTITLED "STATE DEPARTMENT DENIES
REDUCING ARMS FOR ZAIRE OR ADDING AID FOR NIGERIA" APPEARED
ON PAGE 3 OF JANUARY 17 EDITION OF NEW YORK TIMES:
QUOTE THE STATE DEPARTMENT DENIED TODAY THAT THE CARTER
ADMINISTRATION HAD APPROVED A 2 MILLION DOL MILITARY
TRAINING PROGRAM FOR NIGERIA AND THAT IT HAD DECIDED TO
CUT MILITARY AID TO ZAIRE ALMOST IN HALF.

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JOHN H. TRATTNER, A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, WOULD NOT
DISCLOSE THE AMOUNT OF MILITARY AID TO BE REQUESTED FOR
ZAIRE IN THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL 1979, BUT OTHER ADMINISTRATION
OFFICIALS SAID IT WOULD BE 17.5 MILLION DOLS, EXACTLY
WHAT CONGRESS VOTED FOR FISCAL 1978.

IF THIS AMOUNT WERE REQUESTED, IT WOULD BE TECHNICALLY

CORRECT TO SAY THAT NO REDUCTION HAD BEEN PROJECTED FOR
ZAIRE. BUT THE ADMINISTRATION HAD ASKED CONGRESS TO

PROVIDE 30 MILLION DOLS FOR ZAIRE IN 1978, AND UNDER A
FIVE-YEAR AID PROGRAM NOW EVIDENTLY SIDETRACKED, THE
ADMINISTRATION WOULD HAVE ASKED FOR A SIMILAR AMOUNT IN
1979.

SOME OFFICIALS SAID A 2 MILLION DOL MILITARY TRAINING
PROGRAM FOR NIGERIA HAD BEEN CONSIDERED BUT WAS DROPPED
RECENTLY ON THE GROUND THAT NIGERIA'S OIL REVENUES ENABLED
IT TO PAY FOR SUCH PROGRAMS.

MR. TRATTNER POINTED OUT THAT NIGERIA HAD PAID ALL COSTS
OF HAVING SEVERAL HUNDRED NIGERIANS TRAINED IN THIS
COUNTRY OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS. UNQUOTE.

2. ENCRYPTED FOR TRANSMISSION. DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT.
CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780154/aaaabtbm.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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